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| **“Canadians Suffer”** **Desperate times settle over Canada during the Great Depression**  **(From www.cbc.com)** | |
| *"I landed in Canada, a refugee from* **1** *unemployment and want in England with the youthful naïve idea of finding work and prosperity in the new country ... It soon became apparent that here also there were no jobs and for a couple of days I hung around the CPR depot, dozing on benches."*  *- Ron Liversedge*  October 24, 1929 went down in history **2**  as "Black Thursday". On that day, stock prices plummeted on the New York Stock Exchange, creating a domino effect on world stock markets. It signaled the beginning of the Great Depression.  Canada was one of the hardest hit by **3**  the economic crisis. The country relied heavily on its exports. Pulp and paper, wood and wheat represented two-thirds of Canadian exports and accounted for much of the country's prosperity. With the onset of the global Depression, countries adopted protectionist measures to defend their own markets.  **Jobless army**  The crisis hit every economic sector **4**  in Canada including agriculture, industry, commerce and services. By 1933, three in ten Canadians were out of work. With few government assistance programs, thousands of men criss-crossed the country, looking for work, which didn't exist, and food and shelter, which was increasingly scarce. | Those with jobs were desperate to **5**  keep them. Textile mills took advantage cheap labour, and adult workers were replaced by girls as young as 15, who would do the job for about half of what the men earned.  **The Dust Bowl**  The Canadian prairies experienced **6**  some the toughest times. In the first three years of the Depression, the price of wheat tumbled from $1,23 a bushel to 29 cents in 1932. And in 1929, an unprecedented decade of drought set in on parts of the prairies. The once-lush fields dried up and the crops burned in the sun.    In 1937, the world economy began **7**  to straighten out even though the international markets were less active. In 1938-1939, industrial countries resumed their economic development but Canada remained behind the others. It would take Canada two more years to pull of the Great Depression. And this was at a high cost. By 1940, Canada transformed from an economy in crisis to an economy of war.  great_depression-2.jpg |

**Read the selection below and answer the questions that follow it.**

**Multiple-Choice** (Circle the best or most correct answer.)

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| **1** According to the reading, why was Canada  one of the hardest hit by the economic  crisis?    A “Black Thursday” created a domino effect  on world markets.  B The Canadian economy relied heavily on  exports.  C Textile mills took advantage of cheap  labour.  D A decade of drought set in on the  prairies.  **2** According to the quote that opens the  reading, why was Ron Liversedge  unsuccessful?  F Because he was youthful and naive.    G Because there were no jobs in Canada.  H Because he slept in the CPR depot..  J Because he was unemployed in England.  **3** What was the “Dust Bowl”?  A The nickname for the New York Stock  Exchange after “Black Thursday.”  B The nickname for closed textile mills.  C The nickname for the World Economy  during the Great Depression.  D The nickname for the prairies, once they  were hit by drought. | **4**  What word is closest in meaning to  “scarce” as used in paragraph 4?  F rare  G expensive  H dangerous  J empty  **5** Which event described in the reading  happened first?  A Canada “transformed from an economy in  crisis to an economy of war.”  B Wheat prices tumbled.  C “Black Thursday”  D Countries “adopted protectionist  measures” |

**Written Answer**

**6** Could the Canadian government have avoided the Great Depression? Use specific details

from the reading to support your answer.

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**Rough Notes**

*Use the space below for rough notes. Nothing you write in this space will be marked.*